## STERN & KILCULLEN, LLC

Jeffrey Speiser, Esq. Andrew S. Bosin, Esq. Michael Dinger, Esq. 75 Livingston Avenue Roseland, New Jersey 07068 (973) 535-1900

## **STARNES & ATCHISON LLP**

Walter William Bates, Esq. (pro hac vice) Jay M. Ezelle, Esq. (pro hac vice) 100 Brookwood Place P.O. Box 598512 Birmingham, Alabama 35209 (205) 868-6000

Attorneys for defendants ProAssurance Corporation, ProAssurance Casualty Company, and ProAssurance Indemnity Company, Inc.

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS OF ST. CLARE'S, LLC, MERCER BUCKS ORTHOPEDICS, PC, and PASCACK EMERGENCY SERVICES,

On behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

ν.

PROASSURANCE CORPORATION, PROASSURANCE CASUALTY COMPANY, and PROASSURANCE INDEMNITY COMPANY, INC.,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 09-cv-6244-WJM-MF

DECLARATION OF MICHAEL DINGER

Motion Date: March 15, 2010 Oral Argument Requested

[Filed Electronically]

- 1. I am an associate in the firm Stern & Kilcullen, LLC, counsel for defendants ProAssurance Corporation, ProAssurance Casualty Company, and ProAssurance Indemnity Company, Inc.
- 2. A copy of the cover page from the professional liability policy between ProNational Insurance Company and Emergency Physicians of Saint Clare's LLC and the page containing the policy's arbitration provision are attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
- 3. A copy of the cover page from the professional liability policy between ProNational Insurance Company and Mercer-Bucks Orthopaedics PC and the page containing the policy's arbitration provision are attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.
- 4. A copy of the cover page from the professional liability policy between ProNational Insurance Company and Pascack Emergency Services PA and the page containing the policy's arbitration provision are attached hereto as **Exhibit C**.
- 5. A copy of a letter dated April 20, 2005 from ProNational Insurance Company to the New Jersey Division of Insurance (with ProNational's FEIN number redacted) is attached hereto as **Exhibit D**.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Dated: February 18, 2010

Michael Dinger

# **EXHIBIT A**

# HEALTH CASE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY POLICY COVER PAGE

## THIS POLICY CONTAINS COVERAGES WRITTEN ON A "MODIFIED CLAIMS-MADE" BASIS.

consideration of the payment of the premium, and in reliance upon the statements and representations in the polications for insurance and the Coverage Summary, we agree to provide the insurance contained in the policy.

HE COMPANY: ProNational Insurance Company

AGENT: MBS Insurance Services Inc
One Indian Road Second Floor

Form Number PRA-HCP-020-07 02

PRA-HCP-030-06 02

PRA-HCP-071-06 02 PRA-HCP-121-07 02

PRA-HCP-200-07 02

PRA-HCP-303-06 02 PRA-HCP-500-06 02

PRA-HCP-202-07 02.NJ

PRA-HCP-606-07 02.NJ

POLICYHOLDER: Emergency Physicians of Saint Clare's LLC

Denville ,NJ 07834

PO Box 1246 Denville, NJ 07834

POLICY NUMBER: CP1670

The **policy** consists of this **Cover Page** and the following forms (together with any endorsements issued from time to time).

Title
Coverage Summary
Healthcare Professional Liability Policy
Professional Legal Defense Coverage Part-Extended Form
Name Schedule Endorsement
Part-time Endorsement
Restrictive Endorsement
Insured Paramedical Employee Shared Limit Endorsement
Renewal Endorsement
New Jersey State Law Endorsement

If any provision of the **policy** changes, **we** will issue an endorsement stating the effective date of any changes. Terms appearing in the **policy** in **bold face print** are defined in the Definitions section.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have caused the Cover Page to be signed by our President and Secretary. The policy is effective only if countersigned on the Coverage Summary by our duly authorized representative.

Kathryn A. Neville, JD, CPCU Secretary

Kathyn D. neulle

Victor T. Adamo, JD, CPCU President and CEO

Health Care Professional Liability Policy Cover Page ©2002 ProNational Insurance Company

### XII. FRAUD AND MISREPRESENTATIONS

By acceptance of this **policy**, all **insureds** agree that the statements in the **Coverage Summary** and in their respective applications or renewal applications for insurance are their agreements and representations, that this **policy** is issued in reliance upon the truth of such representations, and that this **policy** embodies all agreements existing between themselves and **us** or any of **our** agents relating to this insurance. In the event of any fraud, material misrepresentation or omission by any **insured** in any application or renewal application for insurance, this **policy** is void as to the party committing such fraud, material misrepresentation or omission, no coverage is afforded to such party hereby, and such party shall have no right to purchase a **Reporting Endorsement**.

## XIII. ARBITRATION

Both the insureds and we acknowledge that this agreement evidences a transaction involving interstate commerce. Any dispute, claim or controversy arising out of, relating to or in connection with this policy, its subject matter or its negotiation, as to the existence, validity, interpretation, performance, non-performance, enforcement, operation, breach of contract, breach of warranty, continuance or termination thereof or any claim alleging fraud. deceit. or suppression of any material fact or breach of fiduciary duty shall be submitted to binding arbitration in accordance with Title 9 U.S.C. § 1 et seq. (The United States Arbitration Act) and the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such arbitration proceedings may be initiated by either party by notice in writing to the other and to the American Arbitration Association. Each party to arbitration shall bear its own arbitration costs and expenses. However, in the event any party is required to file a petition or commence any such other proceeding to compel arbitration, the arbitrator may award that party reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in having to bring such action. The arbitrator shall have the discretion to order a pre-hearing exchange of information by the parties, including, without limitation, production of requested documents, exchanging of summaries of testimony of proposed witnesses, and examination by deposition of parties. Notwithstanding contrary state law or regulation, the arbitrator shall have the authority to award any remedy or relief allowed under the provisions of the United States Arbitration Act, including, without limitation, specific performance of any obligation created under this policy, the awarding of punitive damages, the issuance of an injunction, or the imposition of sanctions for abuse or frustration of the arbitration process. Any arbitration award shall be in writing and shall specify the factual and legal bases of the award. Judgment on the award rendered by the arbitrator shall be final and may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The provisions hereof shall be a complete defense to any suit, action, or proceeding in any federal, state or local court or before any administrative tribunal with respect to any dispute, claim or controversy arising under this policy.

If we maintain an office in the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located, the arbitration shall proceed in any county in which we maintain such office in such state. If we do not maintain an office in the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located, the arbitration shall proceed in the county that includes the capital of the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located.

### XIV. GOVERNING LAW

This **policy** shall be construed, and the legal relations between **us** and the **insureds** (and anyone claiming under the **insureds**) shall be determined, in accordance with the laws of the state in which the address of the **policyholder**, as specified in the **Coverage Summary**, is located, except that the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9 of the United States Code) shall apply to the rights and obligations of the parties to submit any dispute, claim or controversy arising under this **policy** to arbitration, as provided in Section XIII above.

**EXHIBIT B** 

# HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY POLICY COVER PAGE

## THIS POLICY CONTAINS COVERAGES WRITTEN ON A "MODIFIED CLAIMS-MADE" BASIS.

In consideration of the payment of the premium, and in reliance upon the statements and representations in the applications for insurance and the Coverage Summary, we agree to provide the insurance contained in the policy.

THE COMPANY: ProNational Insurance Company

AGENT: CLA Insurance CLA Building 2 Campus Blvd Newtown Square, PA 19073

POLICYHOLDER: Mercer-Bucks Orthopaedics Pc

3120 Princeton Pike Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

**POLICY NUMBER: MP41275** 

The **policy** consists of this **Cover Page** and the following forms (together with any endorsements issued from time to time).

<u>Title</u>	<u>Form Number</u>
Coverage Summary	PRA-HCP-020-07 02
Healthcare Professional Liability Policy	PRA-HCP-030-06 02
Professional Legal Defense Coverage Part - Extended Form	PRA-HCP-071-06 02
Part-Time Endorsement	PRA-HCP-200-07 02
Shared Limit Endorsement Insured Paramedical Employees	PRA-HCP-303-06 02
Renewal Endorsement	PRA-HCP-500-06 02
New Jersey State Law Endorsement	PRA-HCP-606-07 02.NJ

If any provision of the **policy** changes, **we** will issue an endorsement stating the effective date of any changes. Terms appearing in the **policy** in **bold face print** are defined in the Definitions section.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have caused the Cover Page to be signed by our President and Secretary. The policy is effective only if countersigned on the Coverage Summary by our duly authorized representative.

Kathryn A. Neville, JD, CPCU Secretary

Kathyn a. neulle

Victor T. Adamo, JD, CPCU President and CEO

adjustment may be made either at the time cancellation is effected or as soon as practicable after cancellation becomes effective, but payment or tender of unearned premium is not a condition of cancellation.

#### RENEWAL OF POLICY XI.

Neither the policyholder nor we have any obligation to renew this policy. Any renewal will be on the policy forms and endorsements then in effect. If we elect not to renew this policy, or coverage of any insured thereunder, notice of nonrenewal shall be given in accordance with applicable state law.

#### FRAUD AND MISREPRESENTATIONS XII.

By acceptance of this policy, all insureds agree that the statements in the Coverage Summary and in their respective applications or renewal applications for insurance are their agreements and representations, that this policy is issued in reliance upon the truth of such representations, and that this policy embodies all agreements existing between themselves and us or any of our agents relating to this insurance. In the event of any fraud, material misrepresentation or omission by any insured in any application or renewal application for insurance, this policy is void as to the party committing such fraud, material misrepresentation or omission, no coverage is afforded to such party hereby, and such party shall have no right to purchase a Reporting Endorsement.

## XIII. ARBITRATION

Both the insureds and we acknowledge that this agreement evidences a transaction involving interstate commerce. Any dispute, claim or controversy arising out of, relating to or in connection with this policy, its subject matter or its negotiation, as to the existence, validity, interpretation, performance, non-performance, enforcement, operation. breach of contract, breach of warranty, continuance or termination thereof or any claim alleging fraud, deceit, or suppression of any material fact or breach of fiduciary duty shall be submitted to binding arbitration in accordance with Title 9 U.S.C. § 1 et seg. (The United States Arbitration Act) and the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such arbitration proceedings may be initiated by either party by notice in writing to the other and to the American Arbitration Association. Each party to arbitration shall bear its own arbitration costs and expenses. However, in the event any party is required to file a petition or commence any such other proceeding to compel arbitration, the arbitrator may award that party reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in having to bring such action. The arbitrator shall have the discretion to order a pre-hearing exchange of information by the parties, including, without limitation, production of requested documents, exchanging of summaries of testimony of proposed witnesses, and examination by deposition of parties. Notwithstanding contrary state law or regulation, the arbitrator shall have the authority to award any remedy or relief allowed under the provisions of the United States Arbitration Act, including, without limitation, specific performance of any obligation created under this policy, the awarding of punitive damages, the issuance of an injunction, or the imposition of sanctions for abuse or frustration of the arbitration process. Any arbitration award shall be in writing and shall specify the factual and legal bases of the award. Judgment on the award rendered by the arbitrator shall be final and may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The provisions hereof shall be a complete defense to any suit, action, or proceeding in any federal, state or local court or before any administrative tribunal with respect to any dispute, claim or controversy arising under this policy.

If we maintain an office in the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located, the arbitration shall proceed in any county in which we maintain such office in such state. If we do not maintain an office in the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located, the arbitration shall proceed in the county that includes the capital of the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located.

## XIV. GOVERNING LAW

This policy shall be construed, and the legal relations between us and the insureds (and anyone claiming under the insureds) shall be determined, in accordance with the laws of the state in which the address of the policyholder, as specified in the Coverage Summary, is located, except that the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9 of the United States Code) shall apply to the rights and obligations of the parties to submit any dispute, claim or this policy to arbitration, as provided in Section arising under

# **EXHIBIT C**

# HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL LIABORY POLICY COVER PAGE

# THIS POLICY CONTAINS COVERAGES WRITTEN ON A "MODIFIED CLAIMS-MADE" BASIS.

In consideration of the payment of the premium, and in reliance upon the statements and representations in the applications for insurance and the Coverage Summary, we agree to provide the insurance contained in the policy.

THE COMPANY: ProNational Insurance Company

POLICYHOLDER: Pascack Emergency Services PA

11 Willis Drive Closter NJ 07624

**POLICY NUMBER: CP1692** 

AGENT: CLA Insurance

CLA Building-2 Campus Blvd Newtown Square PA 19073

The policy consists of this Cover Page and the following forms (together with any endorsements issued from time to time).

Form Number Title PRA-HCP-020-07 02 Coverage Summary PRA-HCP-030-06 02 Healthcare Professional Liability Policy PRA-HCP-071-06 02 Professional Legal Defense Coverage Part-Extended Form PRA-HCP-121-07 02 Name Schedule Endorsement PRA-HCP-200-07 02 Part-time Endorsement PRA-HCP-201-07 02 Limitation of Prior Acts Coverage Endorsement PRA-HCP-202-07 02.NJ Restrictive Endorsement PRA-HCP-202-07 02.NJ Restrictive Endorsement PRA-HCP-302-06 02 Sharing Organization Shared Limit Endorsement Insured Paramedical Employee Shared Limit Endorsement PRA-HCP-303-06 02 PRA-HCP-500-06 02 Renewal Endorsement PRA-HCP-606-07 02.NJ New Jersey State Law Endorsement

If any provision of the policy changes, we will issue an endorsement stating the effective date of any changes. Terms appearing in the policy in bold face print are defined in the Definitions section.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have caused the Cover Page to be signed by our President and Secretary. The policy is effective only if countersigned on the Coverage Summary by our duly authorized representative.

Kathryn A. Neville, JD, CPCU Secretary

Kathryn A. neulle

Victor T. Adamo, JD, CPCU President and CEO

PRA-HCP-010 06 02

Health Care Professional Liability Policy Cover Page @2002 ProNational Insurance Company

Page 1

### XII. FRAUD AND MISREPRESENTATIONS

By acceptance of this **policy**, all **insureds** agree that the statements in the **Coverage Summary** and in their respective applications or renewal applications for insurance are their agreements and representations, that this **policy** is issued in reliance upon the truth of such representations, and that this **policy** embodies all agreements existing between themselves and **us** or any of **our** agents relating to this insurance. In the event of any fraud, material misrepresentation or omission by any **insured** in any application or renewal application for insurance, this **policy** is void as to the party committing such fraud, material misrepresentation or omission, no coverage is afforded to such party hereby, and such party shall have no right to purchase a **Reporting Endorsement**.

## XIII. ARBITRATION

Both the insureds and we acknowledge that this agreement evidences a transaction involving interstate commerce. Any dispute, claim or controversy arising out of, relating to or in connection with this policy, its subject matter or its negotiation, as to the existence, validity, interpretation, performance, non-performance, enforcement, operation, breach of contract, breach of warranty, continuance or termination thereof or any claim alleging fraud, deceit, or suppression of any material fact or breach of fiduciary duty shall be submitted to binding arbitration in accordance with Title 9 U.S.C. § 1 et seq. (The United States Arbitration Act) and the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such arbitration proceedings may be initiated by either party by notice in writing to the other and to the American Arbitration Association. Each party to arbitration shall bear its own arbitration costs and expenses. However, in the event any party is required to file a petition or commence any such other proceeding to compel arbitration, the arbitrator may award that party reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in having to bring such action. The arbitrator shall have the discretion to order a pre-hearing exchange of information by the parties, including, without limitation, production of requested documents, exchanging of summaries of testimony of proposed witnesses, and examination by deposition of parties. Notwithstanding contrary state law or regulation, the arbitrator shall have the authority to award any remedy or relief allowed under the provisions of the United States Arbitration Act, including, without limitation, specific performance of any obligation created under this policy, the awarding of punitive damages, the issuance of an injunction, or the imposition of sanctions for abuse or frustration of the arbitration process. Any arbitration award shall be in writing and shall specify the factual and legal bases of the award. Judgment on the award rendered by the arbitrator shall be final and may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The provisions hereof shall be a complete defense to any suit, action, or proceeding in any federal, state or local court or before any administrative tribunal with respect to any dispute, claim or controversy arising under this policy.

If we maintain an office in the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located, the arbitration shall proceed in any county in which we maintain such office in such state. If we do not maintain an office in the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located, the arbitration shall proceed in the county that includes the capital of the state in which the address of the policyholder (as specified in the Coverage Summary) is located.

## XIV. GOVERNING LAW

This **policy** shall be construed, and the legal relations between **us** and the **insureds** (and anyone claiming under the **insureds**) shall be determined, in accordance with the laws of the state in which the address of the **policyholder**, as specified in the **Coverage Summary**, is located, except that the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9 of the United States Code) shall apply to the rights and obligations of the parties to submit any dispute, claim or controversy arising under this **policy** to arbitration, as provided in Section XIII above.

# **EXHIBIT D**



ProNational Insurance Company

205/877-4400 800/282-6242 Fax 205/802-4799 www.ProNational.com

April 20, 2005

Ms. Carmen M. Williams Insurance Analyst New Jersey Division of Insurance 20 West State Street Trenton, NJ 08625-0325

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Analyst Carmen William	c
(609) 984-7310 x 50345	-
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Dept File # 08-874	
Deciner Date	

RE:

ProNational Insurance Company

**FEIN** 

Physicians, Surgeons, Dentists, Podiatrists, Allied Health Professionals,

Groups Medical Professional Liability

Rules Filing

Dear Ms. Williams:

I submit for your review and approval the revisions to the rules in the underwriting manual for the captioned program. This filing is being submitted under the use and file regulation; therefore, I request the effective date of April 1, 2005.

While many of the rules have been clarified, some of the more substantive changes include:

- 1. Radiology Interventional, 80360, has been added to the specialty codes on page 8 and assigned to class 6.
- 2. Radiology Diagnostic No Surgery, 80253, remains in class 4.
- 3. Radiology Diagnostic Minor Surgery, 80280, has been reassigned from class 5 to class 6.
- 4. Removing the General State Exceptions and placing them in the State Exceptions for the appropriate specialties.
- 5. Replacing the entire Risk Mapping Program with Hospital Based Discount Programs.

In addition to the final version of the manual, I have enclosed a copy of the manual with marked revisions. If this filing is acceptable, please return one copy of filing with your stamp of approval in the postage paid envelope that is enclosed for your convenience. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (800) 282-6242, ext. 4426, or e-mail me at Igoodwin@proassurance.com.

Sincerely,

LaQuita B. Goodwin Compliance Specialist

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Enclosures